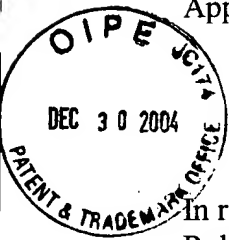


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of:
Robert Walter SCHREIBER

Confirmation Number: 6993

Application No.: 09/750,317

Group Art Unit: 2175

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Examiner: Jacques Veillard

Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR ENABLING STATISTICAL MATCHING

RESPONSE TO REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.312

Mail Stop Issue Fee

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Comments on Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

Applicants confirm with appreciation the receipt of the Notice of Allowability in this Application. Regarding the examiner's statement of reasons for allowance, applicant respectfully notes that the Examiner has improperly characterized the allowed claims. Nonetheless, the patentability is based on the features recited in the claims and includes, for example:

Independent claim 1:

1. A method for searching at least one database having hierarchical data lists, hierarchical data containers, and hierarchical data elements, wherein the search is conducted using statistical matching, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a search request for data, the search request including a predetermined tolerance and predetermined units;

generating a first statistical curve from values derived from the search request;

searching at least the hierarchical data lists, the hierarchical data containers, and the hierarchical data elements stored in the at least one database for data that matches the search request; and

determining whether at least one of the hierarchical data lists, the hierarchical data containers, and the hierarchical data elements stored in the at least one database satisfies the search request.

Independent claim 11:

A system for searching at least one database having hierarchical data lists, hierarchical data containers, and hierarchical data elements, wherein the search is conducted using statistical matching, the system comprising:

a receiving module that receives a search request for data, the search request including a predetermined tolerance and predetermined units;

a first curve generating module that generates a first statistical curve from values derived from the search request;

a searching module that searches at least the hierarchical data lists, the hierarchical data containers, and the hierarchical data elements stored in the at least one database for data that matches the search request; and

a search request determining module that determines whether at least one of the hierarchical data lists, the hierarchical data containers, and the hierarchical data elements satisfies the search request.

Independent claim 21:

A system for searching at least one database having hierarchical data lists, hierarchical data containers, and hierarchical data elements, wherein the search is conducted using statistical matching, the system comprising:

receiving means for receiving a search request for data, the search request including a predetermined tolerance and predetermined units;

first curve generating means for generating a first statistical curve from values derived from the search request;

searching means for searching at least the hierarchical data lists, the hierarchical data containers, and the hierarchical data elements stored in the at least one database for data that matches the search request; and

search request determining means for determining whether the at least one of the hierarchical data lists, the hierarchical data containers, and the hierarchical data elements satisfies the search request.

Independent claim 31:

31. A processor readable medium comprising processor readable code for searching at least one database having hierarchical data lists, hierarchical data containers, and hierarchical data elements, wherein the search is conducted using statistical matching, the medium comprising:

receiving code that causes a processor to receive a search request for data, the search request including a predetermined tolerance and predetermined units;

first curve generating code that causes a the processor to generate a first statistical curve from values derived from the search request;

searching code that causes a the processor to search at least the hierarchical data lists, the hierarchical data containers, and the hierarchical data elements stored in the at least one database for data that matches the search request; and

search request determining code that causes a the processor to determine whether at least one of the hierarchical data lists, the hierarchical data containers, and the hierarchical data elements satisfies the search request.

Independent claim 41:

41. A method for searching at least one database having hierarchical data lists, hierarchical data containers, and hierarchical data elements, wherein the search is conducted using statistical matching, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a search request for data, the search request including a predetermined tolerance and predetermined units;

generating a first statistical curve from values derived from the search request;

searching at least the hierarchical data lists, the hierarchical data containers, and the hierarchical data elements stored in the at least one database for data that matches the search request;

generating a second statistical curve from data stored in at least one of the hierarchical data lists, the hierarchical data containers, and the hierarchical data elements; and

determining whether the at least one of the hierarchical data lists, the hierarchical data containers, and the hierarchical data elements satisfies the search request.

Independent claim 42:

42. A system for searching at least one database having hierarchical data lists, hierarchical data containers, and hierarchical data elements, wherein the search is conducted using statistical matching, the system comprising:

a receiving module that receives a search request for data, the search request including a predetermined tolerance and predetermined units;

a first curve generating module that generates a first statistical curve from data values derived from the search request;

a searching module that searches at least the hierarchical data lists, the hierarchical data containers, and the hierarchical data elements stored in the at least one database for data that matches the search request;

a second curve generating module that generates a second statistical curve from data stored in at least one of the hierarchical data lists, the hierarchical data containers, and the hierarchical data elements; and

a request determining module that determines whether the at least one of the hierarchical data lists, the hierarchical data containers, and the hierarchical data elements satisfies the search request.

Independent claim 43:

43. A method for searching at least one database having hierarchical data lists, hierarchical data containers, and hierarchical data elements, wherein the search is conducted using statistical matching, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a search request for data, the search request including a predetermined tolerance and predetermined units;

generating a first statistical curve from values derived from the search request;

searching at least the hierarchical data lists, the hierarchical data containers, and the hierarchical data elements stored in the at least one database for data that matches the search request;

generating a second statistical curve from data stored in at least one of the hierarchical data lists, the hierarchical data containers, and the hierarchical data elements; and

determining whether the at least one of the hierarchical data lists, the hierarchical data containers, and the hierarchical data elements satisfies the search request, wherein the step of determining comprises determining an overlap amount of the first statistical curve and the second statistical curve.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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